

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claims 1-15 (Canceled)

16. (Currently amended) ~~A cutting tool as in claim 1~~ A cutting tool,
comprising:

a saw blade,

a blade case comprising a blade cover adapted to substantially cover at
least one lateral side of the saw blade and

a light disposed within the blade case, wherein the light is displaced from
the saw blade in a lateral direction that is substantially perpendicular to a face of the
saw blade, the light is substantially aligned with a cutting line of a workpiece that will
be cut by the saw blade during a cutting operation, and

wherein the blade cover includes an inner wall and the light is mounted to
a part of the inner wall that opposes to the saw blade in the lateral direction, and

wherein the cutting tool is a portable circular saw, the saw blade is a
circular saw blade and the light is laterally displaced from the circular saw blade
along the rotational axis of the circular saw blade, wherein the lighting direction is
substantially parallel to the saw blade, the cutting tool further comprising:

a base adapted to contact the workpiece during the cutting operation,

a mounting device constructed to receive the light,

a saw unit arranged and constructed to vertically pivot relative to the base,
wherein the blade case is a portion of the saw unit, the blade case comprises a side
portion that laterally opposes the circular saw blade and the light and the mounting

device are disposed within the side portion,

a handle coupled to the saw unit,

a cover member disposed to substantially protect the light from the saw blade, wherein a gap is maintained to permit light to be directed to the portion of the workpiece that will be cut,

a power supply circuit adapted to supply power to a motor and to the light, wherein elements of the power supply circuit are arranged to horizontally balance the cutting tool when the base extends substantially in a horizontal direction and the cutting tool is held by the handle, wherein the power supply circuit comprises a transformer that is disposed substantially in a vertical plane that extends through the handle and a socket and an electrical line extending from the socket, the socket being coupled to the mounting device, wherein the socket and a portion of the electrical line are disposed within a space defined within the cover member,

a power switch mounted on the handle and operable to start the motor and

a lighting switch mounted on the handle and being positioned adjacent to the power switch, the lighting switch being operable to turn on the light.

17. (Original) A cutting tool as in claim 16, further including a cooling device adapted to cool the light during operation and to produce a flow of air to cool the motor, wherein at least one vent opening is formed in the blade case, cooling air is directed to flow into the blade case through the at least one vent opening and the cover member is arranged and configured to direct cooling air from the vent opening to flow across the light so as to cool the light.

Claims 18 and 19 (Canceled)

20. (Currently amended) ~~A cutting tool as in claim 18~~ A cutting tool

comprising:

a saw blade,

a blade case comprising a blade cover adapted to substantially cover at least one lateral side of the saw blade,

a motor housing adapted to accommodate a motor for driving the saw blade,
wherein the blade case and the motor housing are formed separately from each other and are adapted to be joined to each other along a joining line,

a light adapted to illuminate a portion of a workpiece that will be cut by the saw blade during a cutting operation, wherein the light is laterally displaced from the saw blade and the light is substantially aligned with a cutting line of a workpiece that will be cut by the saw blade during a cutting operation, and wherein the blade cover includes an inner wall and the light is mounted to a part of the inner wall that opposes to the saw blade in the lateral direction,

a power supply circuit adapted to supply power to the light, wherein the power supply circuit comprises a first circuit portion disposed within the motor housing and a second circuit portion disposed within the blade case and

a coupling connecting the first circuit portion and the second circuit portion,
wherein the coupling is operable to connect the first circuit portion and the second circuit portion from an outer side of the tool after the motor housing and the blade case have been joined to each other.

21. (Previously presented) A cutting tool as in claim 20, further comprising:
a recess formed in an outer surface of the cutting tool adjacent to the joining line that accommodates the coupling and
a coupling cover that covers the coupling from an outside when the coupling is accommodated within the recess.

Claims 22-25 (Canceled)

26. (Previously presented) A cutting tool as in claim 17, wherein the power supply circuit comprises:

a motor housing accommodating a motor for driving the saw blade, wherein the blade case and the motor housing are formed separately from each other and are joined to each other along a joining line,

a first circuit portion disposed within the motor housing and a second circuit portion disposed within the blade case, and

a coupling connecting the first circuit portion and the second circuit portion, wherein the coupling is arranged and constructed to connect the first circuit portion and the second circuit portion from the outer side of the tool after the motor housing has been joined to the blade case.

Claims 27-31 (Canceled)